

## ABSTRACT

The present invention involves a system and method that facilitate identifying human interaction by utilizing HIPs such as order-based HIPs and determining a difficulty rating of any type of HIPs in an automated fashion. Order-based HIPs require a user to identify elements in the sequence as well as to identify a correct order of the elements in the sequence. The invention involves presenting a user with at least two HIPs such that the HIP can be of known and/or unknown difficulty. A user that correctly answers the HIP of known difficulty gains access to the HIP-controlled resource, action or application. The user's response to the HIP of unknown difficulty can then be examined and employed to determine whether that HIP is too difficult for humans to solve. Alternatively, at least one HIP can be presented. Difficulty of individual HIP parameters can also be determined.